wherein the two or more data fragments and control information may be extracted from the URLs at the destination node.

50. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 49, wherein the URLs are provided from the source node to the destination node using the HTTP protocol.

51. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 50, wherein the URLs are contained within an HTML document.

52. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 51, wherein each URL contained within the HTML document, is embedded in an <img>, <ilayer>, <applet>, or <iframe> element, contains fragments of the data as URL query parameters, and specifies a location of the destination node.

54. (ONCE AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 53, wherein:

the HTML document is embedded in a registration email received at the source node,

the data fragments embedded in the URLs include registration and user information, and

the method further comprises the computer-implemented steps of:

providing the data to the destination node when the registration email is read;

generating an authentication cookie on the source node in response to receiving the registration and user information;

using the authentication cookie to authenticate a user at the source node when the source node makes subsequent client requests to the destination node.

55. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable medium for exchanging data between nodes in a network, the computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

splitting the data into two or more data fragments;

embedding control information and each data fragment from the two or more data fragments in a URL;

providing the URLs from a source node to a destination node;

wherein the two or more data fragments and control information may be extracted from the URLs at the destination node.

56. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 55, wherein the URLs are provided from the source node to the destination node using the HTTP protocol.

57. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 56, wherein the URLs are contained within an HTML document.

58. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 57, wherein each URL contained within the HTML document, is embedded in an <img>, <ilayer>, <applet>, or <iframe> element, contains fragments of the data as URL query parameters, and specifies a location of the destination node.

60. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 59, wherein:

the HTML document is embedded in a registration email received at the source node, the data fragments embedded in the URLs include registration and user information, and

the computer-readable medium further comprises one or more additional sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the computer-implemented steps of:

providing the data to the destination node when the registration email is read;

generating an authentication cookie on the source node in response to receiving the registration and user information;

using the authentication cookie to authenticate a user at the source node when the source node makes subsequent client requests to the destination node.

61. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer system comprising:

one or more processors; and

a memory communicatively coupled to the one or more processors and carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

splitting the data into two or more data fragments;

embedding control information and each data fragment from the two or more data fragments in a URL;

providing the URLs from a source node to a destination node;

wherein the two or more data fragments and control information may be extracted from the URLs at the destination node.

62. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 61, wherein the URLs are provided from the source node to the destination node using the HTTP protocol.

63. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 62, wherein the URLs are contained within an HTML document.

64. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 63, wherein each URL contained within the HTML document, is embedded in an <img>, <ilayer>, <applet>, or <iframe> element, contains fragments of the data as URL query parameters, and specifies a location of the destination node.

66. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 65, wherein:
the HTML document is embedded in a registration email received at the source node,
the data fragments embedded in the URLs include registration and user information, and
the memory further comprises one or more additional sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the computer-implemented steps of:
providing the data to the destination node when the registration email is read;
generating an authentication cookie on the source node in response to receiving the registration and user information;
using the authentication cookie to authenticate a user at the source node when the source node makes subsequent client requests to the destination node.